

Message Text

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10

ACTION NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 SS-10 MMS-03 SPC-03 PER-05

ABF-01 /034 W

----- 107740

P R 280810Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1031

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 10465

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: APER, ACOM, IS

SUVJ: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL C&R PERSONNEL

DEPT FOR NEA/EX AND OC

BEIRUT FOR RCO

SUMMARY: OWING TO AN UNPRECEDENTED INCREASE IN TELEGRAPHIC TRAFFIC RESULTING FROM THE MIDDLE EAST WAR AND ITS AFTERMATH, EMBASSY TEL AVIV MUST EXPAND ITS HOURS OF COMMUNICATIONS COVERAGE. TCU TEL AVIV ALREADY IS OPERATING ON A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR BASIS. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS IT ESSENTIAL THAT C&R PROVIDE COVERAGE ON A PERMANENT BASIS FOR AT LEAST 19 HOURS PER DAY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY (2400 TO 1900) AND AT LEAST 8 HOURS ON SATURDAY. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE C&R STAFF BY TWO PERMANENTLY-ASSIGNED C&R ASSISTANTS (CRA). AS AN INTERIM MEASURE TWO TDY CRAS SHOULD BE DETAILED PENDING ARRIVAL OF PERMANENT PERSONNEL. END SUMMARY.

1. TELEGRAPHIC TRAFFIC AT TEL AVIV HAS TREBLED SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES. MESSAGE/WORD COUNT FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER EQUALLED THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS SIX-MONTH PERIOD. TOTAL VOLUME FOR
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OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER WAS OVER 11,500 MESSAGES AND

3.5 MILLION WORDS, BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

A. PROCESSED OUTGOING- ALL AGENCIES 3200/435,000

B. PROCESSED INCOMING - ALL AGENCIES 3550/1,530,000

C. NON-PROCESSED INCOMING 4750/1,485,000

TO DATE IN DECEMBER THE VOLUME IS APPROXIMATELY
20 PER CENT ABOVE THESE FIGURES.

2. QUITE ASIDE FROM THE INCREASED VOLUME, HIGH
PRECEDENCE TRAFFIC ALONE HAS REQUIRED TCU TO PROVIDE
CONTINUOUS 24 HOUR COVERAGE. AS A RESULT OF THIS,
PLUS OTHER REQUIREMENTS RECENTLY LEVIED UPON THEM,
TCU IS EXPANDING ITS STAFF BY TWO POSITIONS (TO SIX)
IN ORDER TO PROVIDE 24 HOUR CONVERAGE ON A PERMANENT
BASIS. AT PRESENT THEY ARE PROVIDING THIS SERVICE
WITH ADDITIONAL TDY PERSONNEL. 24 HOUR TCU
COVERAGE MAKES AT LEAST 19 HOUR C&R COVERAGE
ESSENTIAL.

3. IN ADDITION TO THE COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS WHICH
PREDICTABLY HAVE ARISEN FROM A CRISIS SITUATION, THE
POST HAS BEEN BESIEGED BY CODELS, STAFFDELS AND
VISITING MILITARY EVALUATION TEAMS, ALL OF WHOM
GENERATE LARGE AMOUNTS OF TELEGRAPHIC TRAFFIC.
ADDITIONALLY, THE SECRETARY HAS VISITED THE AREA TWICE
AND THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR NEA ONCE. THE RECENTLY
INAUGURATED PEACE TALKS IN GENEVA ALSO WILL ADD TO
THE COMMUNICATIONS BURDEN OF THE POST.

4. THE C&R STAFF HAVE HANDLED THE INCREASED DEMANDS
UPON THEM MOST EFFECTIVELY. THEY ARE, NEVERTHELESS,
EXCEEDINGLY TIRED AND THE PROSPECT OF PROVIDING
SERVICE PERMANENTLY FOR 19 HOURS PER DAY WITHOUT
ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL CANNOT BE CONSIDERED. FROM
OCTOBER 6 TO NOVEMBER 30 THE ENTIRE SECTION WORKED
A TOTAL OF 1,243 HOURS OF OVERTIME, THUS AVERAGING
OVER 65 HOURS OF WORK PER MAN PER WEEK. IN ORDER
SIMPLY TO KEEP PACE WITH TELEGRAPHIC TRAFFIC, OTHER
C&R RESPONSIBILITIES HAVE HAD TO BE IGNORED OR
SCHEDULED IF, AS AND WHEN TIME PERMITS. EFFICIENCY
AND HEALTH WILL SUFFER IF THIS PACE CONTINUES WITHOUT
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ASSISTANCE.

5. THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO INCREASE THE POST
C&R COMPLEMENT BY TWO CRAS TO PERMIT PERMANENT 19
HOUR PER DAY COVERAGE. PENDING ASSIGNMENT OF ADDITIONAL
PERSONNEL, WE NEED TO HAVE TWO CRAS DETAILED TO THE
POST ON A TDY BASIS.
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 28 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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